

e-Gazette No. 024 - March, 2017.

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BETTER LATE THAN NEVER: STATE HERITAGE LISTING?



You could have knocked us all down with a feather. Eight years after APPA asked the State Government to "urgently" consider State Heritage Listing for the Adelaide Park Lands, someone

is now, finally, looking seriously at doing just that.

The Park Lands received National Heritage Listing in 2008 so it was a no-brainer (back in 2009) that we would ask the State Heritage Council to consider whether SA should follow the Federal Government's lead and declare that the Park Lands are worthy of "heritage" recognition.

We're not sure why it's taken so long, but a "heritage assessment" of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Squares is about to commence. The State Heritage Unit within the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) has invited suitably-skilled consultants to tender for the work of "assessing" the Park Lands for their heritage values. Those tenders close tomorrow, Friday 17 March.

The Process

The process of determining whether a place gets entered on the State Heritage Register takes many months. There will be:

- a chance to give your input in the next few months to a website (not yet set up);
- a report from the heritage consultant in August and (if all goes well);
- "provisional" listing would follow late this year or early next year.
- Then another three-month period of public consultation would follow before;
- the listing could be "confirmed" presumably by late 2018.

The final decision will be made by the ten-member State Heritage Council:



But what would it mean for the Park Lands?

In practical terms, State Heritage listing (assuming it can be achieved) would change very little about the ongoing management of the Park Lands. The State Government of the day could still lodge development applications for massive new constructions in the Park Lands, as the current Government has done over the past few years.

The one thing that would change would be that in considering any such application, the Development Assessment Commission would need to have regard to the State Heritage values of the Park Lands.

APPA's [Objectives, enshrined in our Constitution](#) include securing heritage listing for the Park Lands at State, National and World level.

More detail on this initiative, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions is available here: http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/our-places/Heritage/Listing_a_heritage_place/adelaide-park-lands-heritage-assessment

Golf is a sport that sits easily within the concept of Park Lands, with the fairways open to public access at all hours – provided common courtesy is extended to golfers!

The North Adelaide Golf Course (NAGC) makes up just over 8% of the total Park Lands. With 54 golf holes over 3 courses, the NAGC is the largest council operated golf complex in Australia, and is the most centrally located golf course complex to any capital city in Australia.

The City Council's Active City Strategy (2013–2023) seeks to 'manage the North Adelaide Golf Course as a financially sustainable metropolitan sports facility'. The Strategy recommends that this be realised through the development of a Master Plan that determines the optimum layout and product mix of the NAGC.

The Council has appointed consultants GHD Woodhead to begin work on a Master Plan that will help to determine the optimum course layout and operating model needed to ensure the precinct's long-term commercial sustainability. The process will incorporate a review of all aspects of the golf links including course design, clubhouse facilities and services, and golf operations.

You can have your say about the Master Plan here:

<http://yoursay.cityofadelaide.com.au/golfcourse-masterplan>



DESTRUCTION OF TREES ON WAR MEMORIAL DRIVE



Several of our members contacted the secretary recently to express dismay about the loss of large trees along War Memorial drive in Bonython Park. The photos above show only a few of the trees that have been lost.

This is just the beginning of what will be very extensive engineering works in the vicinity to accommodate the [Torrens Rail Junction Project](#).

We ran [a brief story about this project in May 2016](#) after funding was announced in the 2016 Federal budget. Since then, development approval has been granted and work has commenced.

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure and its private consortium partners, have formed what's called the "Connexion Alliance" to undertake this work. Their spokesperson has advised APPA that the Connexion Alliance has:

"developed an innovative design and construction staging solution that removes the need for any temporary track and instead contains construction of the new lowered Outer Harbor line and Torrens Junction underpass within the existing rail corridor. This has significantly reduced the overall construction footprint (in both temporary and permanent form) of the project and impact on the Park

Lands. The project team is also working closely with ACC environment officers to refine the design of work zones to further minimise any required tree pruning and removals.

...
 "Part of our DAC approval includes conditions relating to replanting to offset the loss of all trees. We will replant significant trees as the rate of 3:1, regulated trees at 2:1 and amenity trees at 1:1. Again, we are working with ACC to develop a plan for replanting on completion of the works. In doing so, we will ensure that the new trees to be replanted are native and appropriate to the local area, unlike some of the non-native trees that have been removed.

"...The tree removal undertaken in the roadside verge of War Memorial Drive, as shown in your photo, is needed to create a safe clear work zone for piling rigs and also to lay some critical signalling and telecommunications cables."



While it's distressing to lose major trees from the Park Lands, the planning for this project appears to have been undertaken with more sensitivity to the Park Lands than the wholesale destruction that has befallen Rymill Park under the O-Bahn trenching project.

The Development approval for this project also requires improved pedestrian and bicycle access, with three separate overpasses across the railway corridor to connect:

- North Adelaide,
- Bonython Park,
- the North Terrace "Biomedical Precinct"
- Bowden and
- Thebarton.

Design for these overpasses and the work required to reinstate trees along the rail corridor needs to go back to the Development Assessment Commission for later approval.

MEANWHILE, JUST A FEW METRES AWAY...



To upgrade a major sewer line, SA Water's contractors are busy digging up parts of:

- Pirltawardli (Park 1) especially on the golf courses;
- Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27); and
- Narnungga (Park 25)

The contractors, Leed, have camped their equipment on Narnungga (Park 25) alongside West Terrace opposite Hindley Street, and on the fairway of Hole 2 of the North Adelaide Golf Course (north course), as pictured above.

The sewer upgrade works are scheduled to be finished by July, far sooner than the Torrens Rail Junction Project.

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARK LANDS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

The end of the Festival, Fringe, Womadelaide and the motor racing should see most of the [many kilometres of temporary fencing around the Park Lands](#) coming down over the next few days.

Adelaide's usually-wonderful autumn weather will make it a great time to reconnect with some of those places that have been off-limits to the public for the past few weeks and months.

There are always events scheduled in the Park Lands, many of them free, and there are always opportunities to explore the Park Lands on your own, or with friends or family. Take a look at [our picture gallery](#) for hints about interesting spots to visit.

The City Council continually updates its list of 'what's on'.
<http://www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/whats-on/category/park-lands>

Some things you might like to try over coming days or weeks include:



[Free Outdoor Movie Night - Hunt for the Wilderpeople. Friday Mar 24, 7pm Wita Wirra \(Park 18\)](#)

This free movie night is held annually to celebrate Neighbour Day. Arrive early to set up your spot in Wita Wirra (Park 18) next to the Himeji Gardens off South Tce. Enjoy a sausage sizzle at 7pm, followed by the movie at sundown. This year's movie is the hilarious Hunt for the Wilderpeople (PG) - a New Zealand adventure comedy/drama starring Sam Neill.



[Explore Adelaide by Bike - any time!](#)

With wide streets and beautiful Park Lands, the City of Adelaide is a great place to cycle. Cruise through the scenic cycling trails around the River Torrens, absorb the natural wonders on a Park Lands cycling trail or contemplate large sculptural works on the City's Bike Art Trail. Whether you're a first time visitor or a local who wants to see the City from another perspective, you'll see the City in a whole new light when you explore Adelaide by bike.

["Park Lands Treasure Adventure" -](#)

[Bonython Park \(Park 27\)](#)

A'hoy mateys! It's time to explore the Adelaide Park Lands! Can you crack all of our tricky clues and find the 3 secret destinations? Get the family together and get set for the adventure of a lifetime! The Park Lands are full of secrets just waiting to be discovered. Download and print the Park Lands Treasure Adventure map, for hours full of adventurous activity.

[The five best playgrounds](#)

Climbing, sliding, balancing and swinging; kids just love adventure! Our Park Lands, right in the heart of Adelaide feature some of the most adventurous playgrounds that guarantee hours of fun and imaginative play. This is the definitive list of the top 5 playgrounds for endless fun!

MOTOR RACING – A BENEFIT OR A BURDEN?

While I was stuck in gridlocked traffic during the recent motor racing festival (who wasn't?) your Secretary took to wondering: Do the so-called economic 'benefits' of this annual noise-fest get discounted by the lost productivity that we all must suffer over a prolonged period?

By the Government's own figures, the benefits of taking over Victoria Park for five months a year, to stage a four-day fossil fuel festival in March, produces 13,500 interstate visitors.

By contrast the Tour Down Under cycling event which causes much less disruption in the City generates a massive 39,000 visitors from interstate and overseas. But apparently the car racing fans spend more than the cycling fans: \$65.6 million compared to \$49.6 million.

The State Government's own comparative figures, based on each of the 2016 events which to differing degrees, require at least temporary alienation of some Park Lands.

This is APPA's rough % estimation, but it's a really just suggestion for an independent study we'd like someone to carry out. What do we lose for our money? There should be another column in this chart to reveal the extent of taxpayer subsidy for each, but this cannot be ascertained from the State Government's budget papers.

In 2010, the New South Wales Auditor-General conducted an inquiry into public funds spent on the use of a street circuit for V8 car racing at Sydney's Olympic Park. Among other things, the NSW Auditor-General's report found:

- *Post-event analysis indicates that costs are more than planned and that economic impacts are less than estimated largely because of fewer visitors from interstate.*
- *The approach to assessing the proposal and negotiating an agreement did not follow established procedures for investing public funds.*
- *estimates of costs and benefits were not complete and accurate.*

When will we see the SA Auditor-General's investigation of the real costs and benefits of motor racing on Adelaide's Park Lands? Is it really worth it?

After the Adelaide 500 lost its naming rights sponsor, [APPA called for the event to be transferred to the new racing circuit being built at Tailem Bend](#), so that Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi (Park 16) might be reclaimed as a Park and not a construction site for 5 months every year.

BRIEFLY, IN OTHER NEWS:

New animated video

Post-production is under way on the 2017 APPA animated video, which takes a light-

hearted jab at those who say Park Lands need to be made "vibrant" with more concrete and bricks. The video's being produced using grant funds (from the Federal Government) to improve appreciation and awareness of National Heritage-listed places.

Animator Greg Holfeld (the cartoonist behind our initial 2015 video) has again done the drawings. The premiere will be at our [Annual General Meeting on 30 April](#). (More details next month).

Election issues?

It would appear that the fate of the Adelaide Park Lands will be an election issue next year, either in the State electorate of Adelaide (next March) or perhaps in the City Council elections due in November 2018. Former Deputy Lord Mayor Mark Hamilton is diligently campaigning on Park Lands issues within the city.

<http://hamiltonforlordmayor2014.com.au/news-room/>

Park ambassador update

We haven't (yet) been swept off our feet by volunteers to become Park ambassadors. Please have another look at [the story in last month's e-Gazette](#), or on our 'Take Action' [page](#), and consider "adopting" just one Park. (One out of 30 is easy, right?) Share the role with a friend or partner. Even if you're time-poor, you'll find it a low key, personally fulfilling team role, looking out for just one of our irreplaceable spaces.

<http://www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/take-action/>
<http://eepurl.com/czyhPP#mctoc2>

World Parks Week - 29 April 7 May


APPA's Annual General Meeting this year falls within World Parks Week. It's an opportunity to highlight to the wider world, our struggle to preserve our rich heritage. We share the goals of the [World Urban Parks](#) organisation to "improve the quality of life for citizens" and "to ensure the benefits of parks, open space and recreation are well understood by governments."


PHOTOS OF THE DAY - RECENT HIGHLIGHTS


From the top:


- Kurangga (Park 20) looking northwest from the BMX bike park off Unley Rd
- Walking the dog in Pirltawardli (Park 1) off Barton Tce East
- "Knot" (1975) by Bert Flugelman in Light Square / Wauwi
- Early morning jog along the River Torrens, Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) off War Memorial Drive
- Soccer goalkeeping practice in Tampawardli (Park 24) near Mile End railway station

The Park Lands 'photo of the day' series has been running since May 2014, and **the collection of Park Lands photos now numbers well over 1,000**. We maintain (and gradually grow) 37 separate albums for each one of our 30 Parks, six squares (and one album for 'Alienations'). To browse our photos follow the link below to ['Our photos on Flickr'](#) or [look for our photos on Google Maps](#)












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